

SEN. CLARKE PLEASED THAT DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS SHOWS IMPROVEMENT IN HANDLING OF PAROLES

State Audit Requested by Senator Clarke Reveals Fewer Errors in Handling of Paroles

Saying that there still remains work to be done, State Senator Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) said recently he was reassured that the just completed state audit of the Department of Corrections found that the department has significantly reduced its error rate in the handling of paroles. Senator Clarke requested that the Auditor General review the Department of Corrections handling of paroles after a Pontiac man, who was mistakenly paroled, murdered his ex-wife and two of her children.

“We should never forget the tragic circumstances that prompted this audit nor forget that the ultimate goal here is to eliminate all errors,” said Sen. Clarke. “However, I think the new management team in the Department of Corrections deserves recognition for having substantially reduced the number of errors in the handling of paroles.”

In the Auditor General Report released today, the Department of Corrections is shown to have improved its error rate in all categories evaluated by the audit team. The Auditor General assessment was made by comparing current error rates in the handling of paroles to those found during a similar audit in 1998.

“To its credit, the Department of Corrections acknowledges that still more can be done to reduce the number of mistakes in the handling of paroles,” said Sen. Clarke. “I remain committed to working with the department in order to hold them to task on making the necessary improvements. The public’s safety must remain our primary concern.”